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NORTH CAROLINA

COOPERATIVE CROP REPORTING SERVICE

# Farm Report

## QUESTIONS

1. HOW WILL THIS YEAR'S WHEAT CROP COMPARE WITH THE 1947 CROP?
2. WHAT WAS THE VALUE OF THE STATE'S 1947 TOBACCO CROP?
3. WILL THE COMMERCIAL POTATO CROP BE LARGER THAN LAST YEAR?
4. HOW MANY EGGS DID THE AVERAGE N. C. HEN LAY DURING APRIL?
5. ARE THERE MORE MILK COWS ON N. C. FARMS THAN A YEAR AGO?
6. WERE PRICES PAID FOR MOST FEEDS UP OR DOWN IN APRIL?
7. WHAT WAS THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE 1947 COTTON CROP?
8. THE PEACH CROP WILL BE LARGER OR SMALLER THAN LAST YEAR?
9. HOW DID PRICES FARMERS RECEIVED COMPARE WITH PREVIOUS REPORTS?
10. WHAT ARE THE AVERAGE WAGE RATES PAID BY FARMERS?

No. 16

Raleigh, N. C.

May 15, 1948

## MAY 1, 1948 GENERAL FARM REPORT

### WHEAT AND RYE CROPS SHORT

North Carolina farmers anticipate harvesting a wheat crop of 6,165,000 bushels in 1948. This will be about 27 percent less than last year's crop and 6 percent less than the 10-year average. According to May 1 reports, farmers anticipate harvesting 411,000 acres which will be 86,000 acres or 17 percent below the 1947 acreage. Present prospects point to a yield of 15 bushels per acre compared with 17 bushels last year and the 10-year average of 14.3 bushels. The State's reduced crop this year is primarily due to an unfavorable seeding season.

Production of winter wheat in the United States is now indicated at 845,484,000 bushels. This is 21 percent below last year's record winter wheat production of 1,067,970,000 bushels but nearly 23 percent above the 10-year average crop of 688,606,000 bushels. The Nation's wheat crop will be harvested from 52,471,000 acres or 4 percent below that of a year ago but 26 percent above the 10-year average.

### COMMERCIAL EARLY IRISH POTATOES

Production of commercial early Irish potatoes in North Carolina, as of May 1 this year, is estimated at 5,328,000 bushels. This would mean a yield of 180 bushels per acre from the 29,600 acres for harvest. The average yield in 1947 was 170 bushels per acre from 29,000 acres. Average for harvest this year is 2 percent larger than in 1947 but is 17 percent below the 10-year average. The average yield for the 10-year period (1937-46) is 144 bushels per acre resulting in an average production of around 5,126,000 bushels.

Estimates of the California crop of early Irish potatoes point to the second largest of record. An estimated yield of 400 bushels per acre or a total production of 31,600,000 bushels is forecast from the 79,000 acres for harvest. This would be a production 18 percent above that of last year and twice as large as the 10-year average for that state. Peak harvest of potatoes in California will be reached about mid-May.

Total production of commercial early Irish potatoes in the United States is estimated at 46,941,000 bushels compared with 41,873,000 bushels in 1947 and the 10-year average of 35,042,000 bushels.

### PEACH CROP SHORT

The 1948 North Carolina peach production is now expected to amount to about 1,921,000 bushels. This is one-third less than last year's crop of 2,905,000 bushels, ten percent below the 1937-46 average of 2,131,000 bushels and will be the smallest crop harvested since 1943. The bloom this year was heavy but intermitting spring freezes thinned out the crop considerably in all areas and caused severe damage in some localized sections.

For the 10 southern peach producing states May 1 conditions pointed to a 15 million bushel crop. This would be the shortest crop in this area since the record-low one of 5 million bushels in 1943.

### GENERAL SITUATION

Favorable weather conditions during April enabled farmers to catch up with many of their previously delayed farming operations. However, in many areas the lack of adequate rain, too general cool nights and prevailing winds, were unfavorable for satisfactory plant growth. Rainfall during April was extremely light in the southern Coastal and eastern Piedmont areas. In these sections crops are beginning to show damage from too dry conditions. Although early May moisture in most other areas has been sufficient, good rains and warmer weather would improve crops throughout the state.

Early in May transplanting of tobacco was about complete in the Border Belt, and well advanced to beginning in other upper Coastal and lower Piedmont areas. Corn planting is about complete in all eastern areas, with much of the acreage up to good stands and receiving cultivation. Likewise, cotton and other crops of this part of the state are showing good stands.

Spring grain crops continue promising in all areas although production will be less than last year due to the reduced acreage and the lack of nitrogen for adequate top dressing. Due to an April freeze, May 1 conditions point to the smallest peach crop since 1943. However, trees generally are in good condition and the remaining spotted light set of fruit promises to be of good quality. The supply of farm labor continues to be inadequate in most areas but the increased use of mechanized machinery is relieving this situation in many sections.

Pastures continue to make good growth and are affording near adequate grazing in all sections. This increased source of succulent feeds is reflected by a seasonally higher milk production and also is supplementing to some extent high priced feed concentrates. While present hay supplies on farms are ten-percent below a year ago they are ten-percent above average stocks.

### SMALL GRAIN HARVEST SEASON



## SUMMARY OF THE STATE'S 1947 TOBACCO CROP

A final summary of North Carolina's 1947 tobacco crop indicates that Tar Heel growers produced 907,181,000 pounds of all types of tobacco last year that was valued at \$380,848,000. This was about 2 percent lower than the 927,425,000 pounds produced in 1946, and brought almost 77 million dollars less than the \$457,638,000 realized from the 1946 crop. The season's average price received for the 1947 crop is estimated at 42.0 cents per pound compared with the average of 49.3 cents for the previous year.

The state's flue-cured production amounted to 892,205,000 pounds, 2 percent less than the 912,970,000 pounds produced in 1946. This crop was valued at \$374,513,000 or over 77 million dollars below the value of the 1946 flue-cured crop which amounted to \$451,639,000. The season's average price of flue-cured tobacco was 42.0 cents per pound compared with the average of 49.5 cents for the 1946 crop.

Production of Burley tobacco in the mountain section of the state totaled 14,976,000 pounds and was valued at \$6,335,000 bringing an average of 42.3 cents per pound. This compares with 14,455,000 pounds produced in 1946 which was valued at \$5,999,000 or 41.5 cents per pound.

## FINAL 1947 COTTON PRODUCTION

Production of cotton in North Carolina during the 1947 season totaled 452,000 bales of 500 lb. gross weight. This is 12,000 bales more than was produced from the 1946 crop. Ginnings, as enumerated by the Census Bureau, totaled 457,980 running bales.

The acreage harvested during the 1947 season was placed at 647,000 acres. This compares with 570,000 acres harvested during the 1946 season and the 10-year (1936-45) average of 828,000 acres.

Lint cotton yielded an average of 335 pounds per acre compared with 370 pounds from the 1946 crop and the 10-year average of 348 pounds.

Cotton and cottonseed produced from the 1947 crop was valued at \$87,220,000, compared with \$84,442,000 for that of the 1946 crop. Prices received by farmers for lint cotton sold to May 1 averaged 32.3 cents per pound compared with 32.65 cents for the 1946 season.

The 1947 cotton crop for the United States was 11,851,000 bales of 500 lb. gross weight. This was slightly over 3 million bales more than the small 1946 crop but 539,000 bales less than the 1936-45 average. The combined value of the National cotton and cottonseed crop computed at \$2,291,202,000 is the second-highest on record.

FINAL SUMMARY OF NORTH CAROLINA'S COTTON

| ITEMS                                     | 1946       | 1947       |
|---|------------|------------|
| ACRES HARVESTED .....                     | 570,000    | 647,000    |
| YIELD PER ACRE (LINT) .....               | 370        | 335        |
| PRODUCTION (500# GROSS WT. BALES) .....   | 440,000    | 452,000    |
| AVERAGE PRICE REC'D (LINT) .....          | 32.65      | 32.3       |
| VALUE OF PRODUCTION (LINT) .....          | 71,751,000 | 72,989,000 |
| SEED PRODUCED .....                       | 177,000    | 177,000    |
| AVERAGE PRICE REC'D PER TON .....         | 71.70      | 80.40      |
| VALUE OF PRODUCTION .....                 | 12,691,000 | 14,231,000 |
| VALUE OF PRODUCTION (LINT AND SEED) ..... | 84,442,000 | 87,220,000 |

Cotton prices in the 10 Spot Markets reached a high point for the season in mid-April. On April 20, middling 15/16-inch averaged 38.27 cents a pound compared with 33.83 a month earlier.

During the first 15 days of April about 315,000 bales of cotton were sold in the 10 markets compared with about 200,000 bales from March-16 through March 30.

## APRIL 1 GRAIN STOCKS

Stocks of corn held on North Carolina farms amounted to 31,086,000 bushels on April 1, 1948 or 19 percent more than the 26,157,000 bushels on hand a year earlier and 43 percent larger than the 10-year average of 21,766,000 bushels. Holdings of corn, both on and off farms, totaled 31,942,000 bushels on April 1, compared with 26,440,000 bushels on hand a year earlier. For the nation as a whole only 889 million bushels of corn were stored in all positions on April 1, which is about two-thirds the amount on April 1, 1947 and four-fifths of stocks two years ago. All but 40 million bushels of the current total was still on farms. Off farm stocks of corn were the smallest for April 1 for any of the past ten years. Disappearance of corn in the January-March quarter was far below that in any of the four previous years.

Stocks of wheat in all positions in North Carolina as of April 1 totaled 2,134,000 bushels, of which 1,690,000 bushels were still on farms. These current wheat stocks are 49 percent larger than for April 1 last year. For the United States nearly 478 million bushels of wheat remained in all storage positions on April 1 despite near record disappearance since the last harvest. Current national wheat stocks are 55 percent larger than a year ago and 44 percent larger than on April 1, 1946.

Stocks of oats in all North Carolina storage positions, which totaled 2,297,000 bushels on April 1 of this year, were only 2 percent less than the holdings of 2,346,000 bushels a year earlier. Only 89,000 bushels of this year's holdings were in off farm positions. National oat stocks of 437 million bushels, the smallest in 6 years of record, indicate continued heavy use for feed with both farm and off farm stocks at low levels. The 1943-47 average stocks on April 1 were 526 million bushels.

Total stocks of barley in North Carolina amounted to 226,000 bushels on April 1 of this year compared with 159,000 bushels on April 1, 1947. Barley stocks for the nation as a whole amounted to 115 million bushels on April 1, 1948 and were larger than on April 1 of the past two years but smaller than in 1943, 1944 or 1945.

FARM PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION AND INCOME FROM MILK IN NORTH CAROLINA

| PRODUCTION OF MILK AND MILK PRODUCTS:       | 1946          | 1947          |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| NUMBER OF MILK COWS ON FARMS .....          | 361,000       | 359,000       |
| PRODUCTION PER COW - MILK .....             | 4,130         | 4,260         |
| BUTTERFAT .....                             | 186           | 192           |
| PERCENT BUTTERFAT IN MILK .....             | 4.5           | 4.5           |
| TOTAL PRODUCTION ON FARMS-MILK .....        | 1,491,000,000 | 1,529,000,000 |
| BUTTERFAT .....                             | 67,000,000    | 69,000,000    |
| BUTTER CHURNED ON FARMS-MILK USED .....     | 483,000,000   | 458,000,000   |
| BUTTER MADE .....                           | 25,300,000    | 24,000,000    |
| DISPOSITION OF MILK PRODUCED:               |               |               |
| MILK FED OR USED ON PRODUCING FARMS-        |               |               |
| TOTAL .....                                 | 876,000,000   | 901,000,000   |
| FED TO CALVES .....                         | 25,000,000    | 28,000,000    |
| CONSUMED AS MILK OR CREAM .....             | 450,000,000   | 491,000,000   |
| CONSUMED AS FARM BUTTER .....               | 401,000,000   | 382,000,000   |
| TOTAL UTILIZED FOR PRODUCTS SOLD .....      | 615,000,000   | 628,000,000   |
| FOR FARM CHURNED BUTTER SOLD .....          | 82,000,000    | 76,000,000    |
| FOR DELIVERIES TO PLANTS AND DEALERS:       |               |               |
| AS CREAM .....                              | 33,000,000    | 24,000,000    |
| AS MILK .....                               | 380,000,000   | 413,000,000   |
| FOR RETAIL SALES OF MILK AND CREAM          |               |               |
| BY FARMERS .....                            | 120,000,000   | 115,000,000   |
| FARM BUTTER SOLD .....                      | 4,300,000     | 4,000,000     |
| PRICE PER POUND .....                       | 50            | 56            |
| VALUE OF SALES .....                        | 2,150,000     | 2,240,000     |
| CREAM SOLD TO PLANTS AND DEALERS .....      | 1,370,000     | 1,000,000     |
| PRICE PER POUND BUTTERFAT .....             | 53            | 58            |
| VALUE OF SALES .....                        | 726,000       | 580,000       |
| WHOLESALE MILK SOLD TO PLANTS AND           |               |               |
| DEALERS .....                               | 380,000,000   | 413,000,000   |
| PRICE PER 100 LBS. .....                    | 4.58          | 5.15          |
| VALUE OF SALES .....                        | 17,404,000    | 21,270,000    |
| MILK AND CREAM RETAILED BY FARMERS .....    | 56,000,000    | 53,000,000    |
| PRICE PER QUART .....                       | 16.8          | 18.6          |
| VALUE OF SALES .....                        | 9,408,000     | 9,858,000     |
| COMBINED SALES OF BUTTER, CREAM AND MILK:   |               |               |
| MILK UTILIZED .....                         | 615,000,000   | 628,000,000   |
| AVERAGE RETURNS PER 100 LBS MILK .....      | 4.83          | 5.41          |
| AVERAGE RETURNS PER POUND BUTTERFAT .....   | 107           | 120           |
| VALUE OF SALES .....                        | 29,688,000    | 33,948,000    |
| VALUE OF MILK USED ON PRODUCING FARMS ..... | 41,103,000    | 47,229,000    |
| GROSS FARM INCOME FROM DAIRY PRODUCTS ..... | 70,791,000    | 81,177,000    |

## PRICES RECEIVED

With the exception of moderately higher prices for cotton and most meat animals, mid-month average price received by North Carolina farmers for their products held somewhat steady compared with a month earlier. Among grains, soybeans were up 20 cents per bushel, while rye was down 10 cents. Other grains reflected from slight to no change in price. Cotton made a noticeable gain by rising from an average price of 32.6 cents per pound in March to 35.1 cents per pound in April. Cottonseed remained at the March level of \$80.00 per ton. With the exception of hogs, all meat animals reflected gains during the month. The average price of hogs dropped from \$20.60 during mid-March to \$19.80 during mid-April. Wholesale milk was down 10 cents per hundred weight, while retail milk remained at the March level. Butter was up 1 cent, while butterfat showed no change. Little change in hay prices occurred during the month, Irish potatoes reflected a drop of 10 cents per bushel and sweet potatoes were up 5 cents per bushel. The mid-April average price of all varieties of lespedeza seed was below the March level. At \$15.20 per hundred pounds, the "All lespedeza seed" price for April was down 90 cents from the March price of \$16.10.

## FEED PRICES

Prices paid by North Carolina farmers for high protein and grain by-products feeds as of mid-April, with the exception of tankage, showed little change from prices paid in March. Tankage dropped from \$7.30, per hundred weight, on March 15 to \$6.80 on April 15, a decline of 50 cents during the month and 80 cents below the February price. Among other feeds decreasing slightly in price from March to April were corn meal and mixed dairy feeds. Middlings, cottonseed meal, laying mash and scratch feed showed no change during the month. Bran, the only feed showing a rise, was up 10 cents per hundred weight.

## UNITED STATES' PRICES

Prices received by farmers continued to rise after the February slump, the index advancing nearly 3 percent during the month ended April 15, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics announced April 30. During the same period the index of prices paid, including interest and taxes, advanced nearly one percent.

The most pronounced increases in prices received by farmers during the past month occurred in the prices of cotton, soybeans, beef cattle, lambs, cabbage, and strawberries. All grains except barley made gains. Sharp decreases occurred in the prices of hogs and oranges with smaller declines in other fruit, hay, milk, and flaxseed.

February industrial production equalled the peacetime record of January.

FEED PRICES PAID BY FARMERS APRIL 15,  
1948 WITH COMPARISONS

| FEED PER<br>HUNDRED WEIGHT | N. CAROLINA        |                    | U. S.              |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                            | MAR.<br>15<br>1948 | APR.<br>15<br>1948 | MAR.<br>15<br>1948 | APR.<br>15<br>1948 |
|                            | - DOLLARS -        |                    |                    |                    |
| BRAN.....                  | 4.35               | 4.45               | 3.90               | 4.21               |
| MIDDLING.....              | 4.60               | 4.60               | 4.02               | 4.41               |
| CORN MEAL.....             | 6.00               | 5.90               | 5.09               | 5.15               |
| COTTONSEED MEAL...         | 4.65               | 4.65               | 5.13               | 5.07               |
| MIXED DAIRY FEED:          |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| 16% PROTEIN.....           | 4.55               | 4.45               | 4.51               | 4.49               |
| 18% PROTEIN.....           | 4.90               | 4.85               | 4.77               | 4.71               |
| 20% PROTEIN.....           | 4.95               | 4.90               | 4.88               | 4.79               |
| LAYING MASH.....           | 5.80               | 5.80               | 5.46               | 5.48               |
| SCRATCH FEED.....          | 5.60               | 5.60               | 5.30               | 5.34               |
| TANKAGE.....               | 7.30               | 6.80               | 6.83               | 6.58               |

NORTH CAROLINA AND UNITED STATES INDEX NUMBERS  
(N. C. PRICES RECEIVED 1909-14=100 PERCENT)

| COMMODITY                             | MAR.<br>15<br>1948  | APR.<br>15<br>1948 | APR.<br>15<br>1947 | APR.<br>15<br>1946 | APR.<br>15<br>1945 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                       | N. C. INDEX NUMBERS |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| ALL FARM PRODUCTS...                  | 260                 | 270                | 261                | 207                | 182                |
| COTTON & COTTONSEED...                | 267                 | 284                | 275                | 201                | 170                |
| GRAIN.....                            | 223                 | 223                | 220                | 169                | 158                |
| MEAT ANIMALS.....                     | 345                 | 354                | 333                | 235                | 220                |
| POULTRY.....                          | 220                 | 218                | 208                | 178                | 183                |
| DAIRY PRODUCTS.....                   | 237                 | 237                | 221                | 176                | 172                |
| MISCELLANEOUS.....                    | 252                 | 250                | 241                | 245                | 219                |
| RATIO OF PRICES<br>RECEIVED TO PAID*  | 105                 | 108                | 114                | 114                | 105                |
|                                       | U. S. INDEX NUMBERS |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| PRICES RECEIVED.....                  | 283                 | 291                | 276                | 212                | 203                |
| PRICES PAID.....                      |                     |                    |                    |                    |                    |
| INTEREST, TAXES...                    | 247                 | 249                | 230                | 181                | 173                |
| RATIO OF PRICES<br>RECEIVED TO PAID.. | 115                 | 117                | 121                | 117                | 117                |

\* Ratio of N. C. prices received to U. S. paid.

COMPARISON OF U. S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS AND PARITY PRICES\*

| COMMODITY<br>AND<br>UNIT | PRICES<br>RECEIVED<br>BY FARMERS |                    | PARITY OR<br>COMPARABLE<br>PRICES |                    | ACTUAL<br>PRICES AS<br>PERCENTAGE<br>OF PARITY |                    |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|
|                          | MAR.<br>15<br>1948               | APR.<br>15<br>1948 | MAR.<br>15<br>1948                | APR.<br>15<br>1948 | MAR.<br>15<br>1948                             | APR.<br>15<br>1948 |
|                          | - DOLLARS -                      |                    | - DOLLARS -                       |                    | - PERCENT -                                    |                    |
| COTTON, PER LB.....      | .318                             | .341               | .306                              | .309               | 104  | 110                |
| WHEAT, PER BU.....       | 2.21                             | 2.29               | 2.18                              | 2.20               | 101  | 104                |
| CORN, PER BU.....        | 2.11                             | 2.19               | 1.59                              | 1.60               | 133  | 137                |
| OATS, PER BU.....        | 1.17                             | 1.19               | .986                              | .994               | 119  | 120                |
| BARLEY, PER BU.....      | 1.87                             | 1.85               | 1.53                              | 1.54               | 122  | -                  |
| RYE, PER BU.....         | 2.14                             | 2.17               | 1.78                              | 1.79               | -  | -                  |
| BEEF CATTLE, PER CWT.    | 20.70                            | 21.90              | 13.40                             | 13.50              | 154  | 162                |
| HOGS, PER CWT.....       | 21.80                            | 20.60              | 18.00                             | 18.10              | 121  | 114                |
| LAMBS, PER CWT.....      | 20.00                            | 21.10              | 14.50                             | 14.60              | 138  | 145                |
| CHICKENS, PER CWT....    | .272                             | .28                | .282                              | .284               | 96   | 99                 |
| EGGS, PER DOZ.....       | .426                             | .426               | .462                              | .449               | 92   | 95                 |
| MILK, PER CWT.....       | 4.81                             | 4.68               | 3.89                              | 3.73               | 124  | 125                |

\* Parity means a price for the farmers product which will give it an exchange value for things the farmer needs to buy equal to that in a specified base period (usually 1909-14).

## APRIL PRICE INDEX

At 270 percent of the 1909-14 average, the mid-April "All Farm Products" index of prices received by North Carolina farmers jumped 10 points above the March index and compares with an index of 261 for April 1947. Higher prices received for cotton and most meat animals were chiefly responsible for the rise in the April index. At 284 percent, the cotton and cottonseed index for April reflected an increase of 17 points over the March index. The meat animal index at 354 was 9 points above March. The grain index at 223 and the dairy products index at 237 showed no change during the month. Indexes for poultry and miscellaneous products were each down 2 points.

The April ratio of prices received by North Carolina farmers to prices paid by United States farmers was 108 percent. This ratio compares with 105 percent in March and 114 percent in April of last year.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS APRIL 15,  
1948 WITH COMPARISONS

| COMMODITY       | UNIT | N. CAROLINA        |                    | U. S.              |                    |
|-----------------|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                 |      | MAR.<br>15<br>1948 | APR.<br>15<br>1948 | MAR.<br>15<br>1948 | APR.<br>15<br>1948 |
|                 |      | - DOLLARS -        |                    |                    |                    |
| CORN.....       | BU.  | 1.91               | 1.93               | 2.19               |                    |
| WHEAT.....      | BU.  | 2.54               | 2.53               | 2.29               |                    |
| OATS.....       | BU.  | 1.27               | 1.29               | 1.19               |                    |
| BARLEY.....     | BU.  | 1.75               | 1.75               | 1.85               |                    |
| RYE.....        | BU.  | 2.51               | 2.41               | 2.17               |                    |
| SOYBEANS.....   | BU.  | 3.00               | 3.20               | 3.64               |                    |
| COWPEAS.....    | BU.  | 5.25               | 5.25               | 5.34               |                    |
| PEANUTS.....    | LB.  | .11                | .11                | .102               |                    |
| COTTON.....     | LB.  | .326               | .351               | .341               |                    |
| COTTONSEED....  | TON  | 80.00              | 80.00              | 89.40              |                    |
| WOOL.....       | LB.  | .47                | .47                | .418               |                    |
| HOGS.....       | CWT. | 20.60              | 19.80              | 20.60              |                    |
| BEEF CATTLE...  | CWT. | 16.90              | 18.00              | 21.90              |                    |
| VEAL CALVES...  | CWT. | 21.80              | 23.00              | 24.10              |                    |
| SHEEP.....      | CWT. | 9.40               | 9.60               | 9.45               |                    |
| LAMBS.....      | CWT. | 18.50              | 20.60              | 21.10              |                    |
| CHICKENS.....   | LB.  | .29                | .295               | .28                |                    |
| EGGS.....       | DOZ. | .40                | .39                | .426               |                    |
| MILK:(WHSE.)... | CWT. | 5.65               | 5.55               | 4.68               |                    |
| RETAIL.....     | QT.  | .196               | .196               | .184               |                    |
| BUTTER.....     | LB.  | .59                | .60                | .678               |                    |
| BUTTERFAT.....  | LB.  | .62                | .62                | .846               |                    |
| HAY,ALL LOOSE.. | TON  | 32.30              | 32.40              | 19.40              |                    |
| HAY,ALL BALED.. | TON  | 35.00              | 35.30              | -                  |                    |
| POTATOES.....   | BU.  | 2.15               | 2.05               | 2.09               |                    |
| SWEET POTATOES  | BU.  | 2.35               | 2.30               | 2.40               |                    |
| APPLES, COMM... | BU.  | 2.50               | 2.50               | 1.83               |                    |
| LESPEDeza SEED. | CWT. | 16.10              | 15.20              | 13.80              |                    |
| KOREAN.....     | CWT. | 13.20              | 12.00              | -                  |                    |
| KOE.....        | CWT. | 18.40              | 18.00              | -                  |                    |
| COM. & TENN.76  | CWT. | 24.00              | 22.50              | -                  |                    |
| SERICEA.....    | CWT. | 24.50              | 23.00              | -                  |                    |

## FARM REPORT

Issued monthly through the  
Crop Reporting Service at Raleigh  
*Frank Parker*  
Agricultural Statistician in Charge

Representing the  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Agricultural Economics  
*W. F. Callander, Assistant Chief*

and the  
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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FARM REPORT

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### MILK PRODUCTION UP

A total of 132 million pounds of milk was produced on North Carolina farms during April, 1948. This is 14 million pounds or 11 percent more than production during the previous month. Since the 358,000 milk cows on farms is the same as a month ago, the increase in total milk production was due to the seasonally higher rate of milk produced per cow. Production of milk per cow in herd averaged 370 pounds during April compared with 330 pounds during March and 286 pounds for February this year.

Pastures which were in above average condition during the month afforded adequate grazing in most all areas.

### EGG PRODUCTION

Egg production took a seasonal upturn in April when North Carolina hens laid 122 million eggs. Although this production was 8 million more eggs than was produced a month earlier it was 11 million below the April 1947 production of 133 million. The number of eggs laid per hen was higher than last April but there were fewer layers on farms. There were 7,001,000 layers in April compared with 8,072,000 in April 1947. The average output per hen was 17.46 eggs in April this year compared with 16.44 last April.

Export prospects for tobacco are improved by European Recovery Program. During January and February, 48 percent less tobacco was sold to foreign countries than in the same months of 1947.

### FARM LABOR

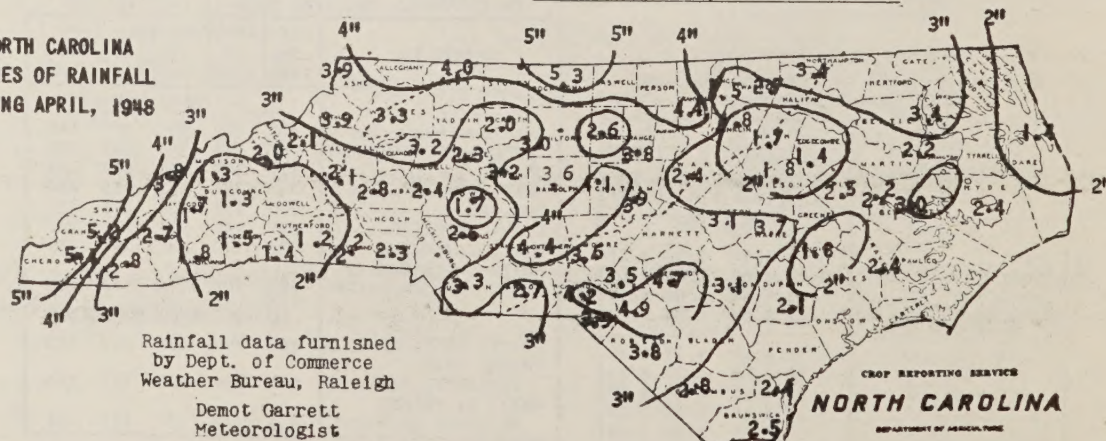
Total farm employment in the United States on April 1 totaled 9 and a quarter million persons, or about the same as a year earlier. The number of farm operators and unpaid members of their families was less on April 1, 1948 than on the same date a year ago. The number of hired workers employed on farms in the United States on April 1 was 4 percent higher than a year earlier.

Wage rates paid by North Carolina farmers were higher on April 1, 1948 than April 1947. The average wage rate per month without board increased from \$75.50 to \$85.00. The daily rate without board increased from \$3.90 to \$4.10.

### WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL

Temperatures for the state averaged above normal. Departures from normal ranged from 2 to 5 degrees. The first week of the month was the coolest with temperatures near or slightly below normal. Unusually high temperature readings were reported on the 12th and 13th. Scattered light frost occurred on the 4th and 10th. Rainfall for the month was variable throughout the state. Deficient amounts, or below normal rainfall, were reported in most of the Coastal plains. In the sandhills section rainfall was greater than normal. Amounts less than normal also occurred in the southwestern Piedmont and the central and southeastern mountain section. In most areas the trend toward drier conditions following a wet March was welcomed. However, toward the latter part of the month the soil in many locations was becoming too dry.

NORTH CAROLINA  
INCHES OF RAINFALL  
DURING APRIL, 1948



February drop in some farm prices accounted for most of the 4.3 billion dollar decline from January in annual rate of personal incomes. However, salary and wage receipts also were off because bad weather and gas shortages cut output in many heavy industries.